

XXV.—*Obituary.*

## WELLS WOODBRIDGE COOKE.

We regret to announce the death of Prof. W. W. Cooke, which took place on the 30th of March last at Washington, from pneumonia after an eight-days' illness. Prof. Cooke is well known to many of us for his writings on the subject of the migration of North American birds, on which he was certainly the leading authority. He was born in Massachusetts, January 25, 1858. His family removed to Wisconsin, where he was educated at the Ripon College. Later he became connected with the Indian service in Minnesota and Indian Territory. Between 1886 and 1901 he was Professor of Agriculture successively in the University of Vermont and at the Agricultural College at Fort Collins in Colorado; in the latter year he became an Expert Assistant with the Biological Survey at Washington. Here he was in charge of the voluminous records on migration and distribution, and ever since 1881 he has poured out a stream of papers almost all devoted to this subject. These were published in the official records of the Biological Survey and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and also in the 'Auk' and 'Condor.' He also prepared for the College at Fort Collins a work on the Birds of Colorado, which with two appendices appeared in the years 1897-1900. Prof. Cooke's work was distinguished for its accuracy, and from the very large number of records which he had accumulated he was able to deduce many interesting facts in regard to migration routes and other problems, and his death is a great loss to American ornithologists.

## GUY L'ESTRANGE EWEN.

With regret we have to announce the death of Mr. Ewen, which took place at Windsor on the 25th of April, as a result of a severe nervous breakdown.

Guy L'Estrange Ewen was born on the 26th of November, 1860, at York, and was a son of the late Major and Mrs. Ewen. He was educated at Harrow. For about ten

years from 1883 he was an Extra Queen's Foreign Service Messenger, and resided at Darmstadt. Subsequently he became a regular Foreign Service Messenger, which post he held till 1913, when he was forced to retire owing to bad health. He received the coronation medals of both King Edward VII. and George V. for his services.

Though he never published anything, he was always interested in birds and their eggs, and in his younger days he amassed a considerable collection of eggs, especially of the Birds of Prey. He was elected a Member of the Union in 1905.

#### HERBERT HASTINGS HARINGTON.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death on the battle-field of another Member of the Union. Col. Harington, well-known to many of us both personally and from his excellent work on Indian birds, was killed in action in Mesopotamia on the 8th of March last.

Lieut.-Colonel Herbert Hastings Harington was born at Lucknow on the 16th of January, 1868, the son of Mr. Herbert Harington, of the Oudh Commission. Educated at Malvern, he entered the Militia, and in 1888 was gazetted a subaltern in the Welsh Regiment. Two years later he was appointed to the Indian Staff Corps, and joined the 92nd Punjabis, with which regiment he served for over twenty years in Burma and in India; also for five years he was attached to the Burmese Police.

In December 1914 he was promoted Lieut.-Colonel, and in February 1916 was gazetted to the command of the 62nd Punjabis, and it was whilst leading this Regiment into action in Mesopotamia that he was killed on the 8th of March.

In 1909 Colonel Harington married Dorothy, the youngest daughter of the Hon. Walter Pepys, by whom he had a son and two daughters.

Colonel Harington had always been a keen lover of nature and natural history generally, but it was not until he went to Burma that he really took up Ornithology seriously. His first articles were written for the Rangoon

Gazette, and soon attracted notice on account of the careful and accurate observation they displayed. These articles he reproduced in book form in 1909, adding a valuable table showing the distribution of Burmese birds\*. He also contributed articles from time to time to 'The Ibis,' the Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society, and other periodicals; the most important of these was his review of the Timeliidæ, which appeared in the Bombay Journal during 1914-15.

Colonel Harington was the discoverer of a number of new forms, and several birds have been named after him by various ornithologists in recognition of the good work he did. Amongst these may be mentioned *Polionetta haringtoni* Oates; *Oreicola f. haringtoni* Hartert; *Pomatorhinus e. haringtoni* and *Garrulus haringtoni* Sharpe. He was elected a Member of the Union in 1904.

We regret to announce the death of Lt.-Col. E. A. Butler on May 16 last. We hope to give a notice of his life and work in the October number.

#### XXVI.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

##### *Bangs's recent papers.*

[The Bahama Swallow in Cuba. By Outram Bangs. Auk, xxxi. 1914, p. 401.

The Bermuda Crow. Id. *ibid.* xxxii. 1915, pp. 229-230.

Cabot's types of Yucatan birds. Id. *ibid.* xxxii. 1915, pp. 167-170.

Notes on dichromatic Herons and Hawks. Id. *ibid.* xxxii. 1915, pp. 481-484.

A Collection of Birds from the Cayman Islands. Id. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. Cambridge, Mass., lx. 1916, pp. 303-320.

Three new subspecies of birds from Eastern Mexico and Yucatan. Id. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, xxviii. 1915, pp. 125-126.

The American Forms of *Gallinula chloropus* (Linn.). Id. Proc. New England Zool. Cl. v. 1915, pp. 93-99.]

In the first of this long list of papers which Mr. Bangs has recently sent, he informs us that he has received two

\* The Birds of Burma. By H. H. Harington, Major, Indian Army, M.B.O.U., F.Z.S. Rangoon, 1909. 134 pp. 8vo.